

Madame Speaker. Many of my constituents worry about the rising cost of health care. Today I rise to let them know we are working to make health care more affordable and accessible. We already strengthened and improved the State Children's Health Insurance Program. Nearly 11 million children will benefit from our actions, enrolling them in health insurance programs and expanding access to dental and mental health benefits.

This year we voted to increase funding for health care information technology, saving billions of dollars and reducing private health insurance premiums for families. We also increased Medicaid funding, protecting coverage for millions of low-income and elderly Americans.

But more needs to be done. That is why I will vote for President Obama's budget. It sets aside more than \$630 billion over the next 10 years to reform health care, reduce Medicare overpayments to private insurers, and reduce drug prices to rein in the high costs that are a drag on the entire economy. I urge everyone to support this budget. Thank you, I yield back.